

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SOUTH FLORIDA

BAPTIST ◊ ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TAMPA,

October 8th, and 11th, 1891.

BARTOW, FLORIDA

COURIER-INEORMANT STEAM PRINT.

1891

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TAMPA, OCT. 5TH, 1891.

According to previous appointment, the South Florida Association convened this day with the First Baptist Church of Tampa. The Introductory was preached by Elder C. V. Waugh, from John 5th and 39th. Closing prayers led by Elder Nash. Adjourned for refreshments until 2 P. M.

At 2 P. M. the temporary moderator called the Association to order, prayers were led by Bro. McDonald, after which church letters were called for, when the following were handed in, etc:

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory.
2. Association called to order.
3. Reading church letters, and enrolling names of messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Call for correspondence.
7. Inviting visiting members to seats.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Reports of committees.
10. Appointment of correspondents to other associations.
11. Election of messengers to State convention.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

2 P. M. Moderator in the chair; and, after prayers, led by Bro. Reuben Walden, the body proceeded to business.

Temperance committee's report read, and discussed by Bros. Porter, Reynolds, Waugh, Crozier, Edwards and McDonald, when the same was adopted.

Religious Literature read, and discussed by Bros. Nash, Walden, Osburn, Porter, Whitehead and Bailey, after which the same was adopted.

Church letters' report read and adopted.

Sabbath School report read, and discussed by Bros. Porter, Bailey and Pimm, when the same was adopted.

Preaching committee reports that Bro. Nash preach to-night, at the usual time.

Adjourned until 9½, A. M., to-morrow.

At 7:30, P. M., Elder Nash preached from the 77th Psalm, and from Mark v, 15th and 16th verses, at the close of which a collection was taken for the State Board of Missions. Amount received, \$7.98.

CORRESPONDENTS TO OTHER ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

Pasco Association, W. M. McDonald, S. Walden, E. G. Wilder.

Manatee Association, J. M. Hayman, B. F. Blount.

MESSENGERS ELECTED TO STATE CONVENTION.

S. Walden, P. S. Crozier, B. F. Blount, J. M. Hayman, W. H. Osborn.

FRIDAY, OCT. 9, 9:30, A. M.—The moderator called the Association to order, and, after prayers, led by Bro. Reynolds, the body proceeded to business.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

ON TEMPERANCE—C. S. Reynolds, W. L. Hancock, E. W. Norwood, J. M. Hayman.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—Henry Edwards, S. Walden, J. G. McCaskey, J. C. Rodgers.

FINANCE—J. A. Cox, J. C. Blount, J. N. Collin, W. F. Pratt.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE—C. V. Waugh, C. H. Nash, W. M. McDonald, J. B. Weeks.

CHURCH LETTERS—W. S. Knight, J. R. McDonald, J. J. Taylor, S. R. Clark.

MISSIONS—W. Osburn, B. F. Blount, J. J. Taylor, A. M. Hull.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—O. J. Frier, P. S. Crozier, Frank Bentley, Hardy Collins.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS—J. A. Kilgore, C. W. Buell, Elijah Graves, L. J. Simmons.

Committee's report on Ministerial Education was read, and spoken to by Bros. Edwards, McDonald, Reynolds, McCaskey, Cox, Waugh, Nash and Bailey, the latter presenting the claims of Stetson University, and also the necessity of educating our young ministers; when a collection was taken for Stetson, in cash and pledges, amounting to \$315.00, and for the education of young ministers, \$77.00.

Adjourned for refreshments until 2 P. M.

After the messengers names were enrolled, the association on permanent organization elected F. H. Jandon moderator, E. G. Wilder secretary, and W. S. Knight treasurer.

Petitionary letters were then called for, when the following were handed in:

Corinth, Pleasant Hill 1st, and also Pleasant Hill 2d, located near Ybor City.

Correspondence called for, when Bro. Robertson and wife, also Elder R. H. Whitehead, from the Manatee Association, were received.

Next, inviting visitors to seats in this body. Elder C. V. Waugh, of Brooksville, J. A. Doll, of Dade City, N. A. Bai-

ley, Orlando, and W. F. Gordon, Bloomfield, accepted the invitation and rendered us much valuable aid; Bro. Bailey taking as nearly as possible the place of our much loved Chandoin, and J. C. Potter, from the State at large, representing much every way, and especially the Florida Baptist Witness.

Next was the appointment of the committee on Preaching. T. W. Wilder, J. C. Blount, W. H. Osburn, Frank Bently and Jno. McKay: said committee, appointed Bro. J. A. Doll to preach to-night, at 7:30.

Adjourned until Friday, Oct. the 9th, until 9:30, A. M. Time fixed for regular services—9:30, A. M., 2 P. M., and 7:30, P. M., of each day.

SATURDAY, OCT. 10.—The Association was called to order by the moderator, and, after prayers led by Bro. Wilder, the body proceeded to business.

Deceased ministers' and deacons' report read and adopted. Finance report read and adopted.

Moved and carried that the Constitutional committee be granted another year to perfect the new constitution for the South Florida Association.

Missions report read, and spoken to by Bros. Osburn, Bailey, Gordon, McDonald, Edwards, Simmons, Crozier and Bailey; when the same was adopted. At the close of this discussion an amount was raised for the Cuban house of worship—\$9.38; also an amount was raised in cash for the relief of W. W. Bostick and family; amount \$18.70.

Adjourned for refreshments until 1:30, P. M. 1:30, P. M., the moderator called the meeting to order, and, after prayers led by Bro. Osburn, the body proceeded to business.

Treasurer's report read and adopted. Executive committee's report read and adopted.

The old Executive Board were continued, to-wit:—B. F. Blount, J. R. McDonald, O. J. Frier, W. S. Knight, E. G. Wilder.

CHURCHES.

MESSENGERS.

- Bartow..... B. F. Blount, J. C. Blount, J. M. Hayman, C. H. Nash.
Bethel..... J. W. Tucker, W. L. Hancock.
Bethany..... T. W. Wilder, Hardy Collins, J. N. Collins.
Clearwater..... C. S. Nenols, Henry Edwards.
Friendship..... A. M. Hull, N. C. Bryan.
Gapway..... John Combee, A Box.
Homeland..... By letter and contribution.
Hopewell..... W. M. McDonald, J. R. McDonald, J. B. Weeks.
Lakeland..... J. G. McCaskey, O. J. Frier.
Keysville..... By letter.
Mt. Tabor..... J. E. Harrelson, Isham Walker, H. Overstreet.
Mt. Olive..... J. A. Cox, Wm. Collins.
Medulla..... J. J. Taylor, J. J. Taylor, Jr., J. A. Kilgore.
New Salem..... By letter, etc.
Providence..... W. F. Pratt, David Williams.
Peace Creek..... By letter.
Plant City..... E. W. Norwood, G. W. Wells, W. S. Knight.
Seffner..... C. W. Buell, W. S. Obrien.
Thonotassassa..... T. H. Jandon, J. C. Rodgers, Elijah Graves.
Turkey Creek..... S. Walden, L. J. Simmons, Irv. Walden.
Tampa..... John A. McKay, Frank Bently, W. H. Osburn.
Winter Haven.... P. S. Crozier, S. R. Clark, M. B. Pierpont.
Willow Oak..... By letter and contribution.
Reuel..... Not heard from.
Antioch..... Not heard from.
Corinth..... N. Odum, D. C. Hart.
Pleasant Hill (1)... James Lyons, J. N. Thompson.
Pleasant Hill (2)... J. M. Dixon, Thos. Fisher.

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Moved and carried, that the clerk have 600 copies of the minutes printed for the use of the South Florida Association, and that he have \$15 for his services.

Preaching committee report that J. M. Hayman preach the next Introductory Sermon.

Resolution of thanks adopted.

Adjourned, to meet with the First Baptist Church of Lakeland, in Polk County, on Thursday before the second Sabbath in October, 1892.

And thus closed one of the most harmonious and profitable sessions of the South Florida Association that it has ever been our pleasure to enjoy.

T. H. JANDON, Moderator.

E. G. WILDER, Secretary.

IN MEMORIAM.

Sacred to the memory of Elder T. E. TILLER and C. P. MARTIN, the two last pastors of the First Baptist Church, at Bartow, Polk County, Fla.

"Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

Sacred to the memory of Deacon A. J. LOYD, of Winter Haven Baptist Church.

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection."

Sacred to the memory of Deacon J. Q. TAYLOR, of the First Baptist Church at Tampa.

"For they that have used the office of a deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree," etc.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We, the committee on Ministerial Education, are impressed with the importance of the education of our young ministers, the better to prepare them for the work of the Master.

We have now two noble young men, one at De Land—Bro. Noah Norwood—who is receiving half of his expenses, paid by the State Board, but is compelled to labor to make up the other half; and Bro. R. Y. Walden, who contemplates taking a theological course. Both are deeply pious young men, and devoted to the Master's cause, and should receive half to complete their preparations for doing well the glorious work of the Master. We cannot lay too much stress upon the education of our young brethren, so as to make them workmen who need not be ashamed. In this age of sophistry and false reasoning, an educated, trained mind is better able to defend the truth than an uncultivated one. Brethren, let us help those two worthy young brethren, and let us help to sustain our colleges at De Land and Louisville. We, your committee, earnestly recommend the appointment of an educational committee, to visit the churches of the Association to represent this important interest to the churches, and raise funds to help to carry on the important work, or any other method that your body would deem proper in its wisdom to adopt.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY EDWARDS, Ch'm.,
 J. G. McCaskey,
 S. Walden,
 J. C. Rodgers,
 Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD LIST OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

CHURCHES.	SCHOOLS	OFFICERS ETC.	PUPILS.	VALUE OF CHURCH PROP'Y.	PAID FOR S. S. WORK ETC.	PASTORS SALARY.
Antioch.....						
Bartow.....	1	8	50	\$ 4200.00	\$ 40.66	\$ 389.10
Bethel.....	1	9	45	1275.00	15.00	199.20
Bethany.....	1	5	33		3.50	106.05
Clear Water.....	1	2	16	450.00		75.00
Friendship.....						
Gap Way.....						
Hopewell.....	1	6	35	400.00	7.00	92.00
Homeland.....				1000.00		36.34
Keysville.....				600.00		37.00
Lakeland.....	1	6	31	1000.00	26.87	200.00
Mt. Olive.....	1	6	46	450.00		150.00
Mt. Tabor.....				200.00		35.00
Medulla.....	1	5	37		8.00	31.60
Seffner.....				1650.00		56.05
Peace Creek.....	1	6	24	120.00	4.50	
Providence.....						36.70
Reuel.....				300.00		100.00
New Salem.....	1	7	48	250.00	6.00	75.00
Plant City.....	1	7	70	1000.00	19.50	388.70
Thonotosassa.....	1	7	40			
Turkey Creek.....	1	5	31	1060.00		
Tampa.....	1	12	90	7000.00	135.58	688.60
Willow Oak.....						
Winter Haven.....	1	10	50	800.00	7.70	76.50
Corinth.....						
Pleasant Hill 1st.....						
Pleasant Hill 2nd.....						
Totals.....	15	101	646	\$15830.00	\$274.31	\$2782.86

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CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES.	PASTORS.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	For Minutes
Antioch.....	Richland.....	Plant City.....	Plant City.....	R. T. Caddin.....	Plant City.....	1.00
Bartow.....	Plant City.....	Plant City.....	Plant City.....	W. M. McDonald.....	Plant City.....	1.00
Bethel.....	Alafia.....	Alafia.....	Alafia.....	Jno. Johnson.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Bethany.....	Tampa.....	Tampa.....	Tampa.....	G. W. Roby.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Clear Water.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Friendship.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Gap Way.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Homeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Hopewell.....	Bartow.....	Bartow.....	Bartow.....	J. M. Hayman.....	Bartow.....	1.00
Keysville.....	Medulla.....	Medulla.....	Medulla.....	Elias Turner.....	Medulla.....	1.00
Lakeland.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Mt. Olive.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Mt. Tabor.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Medulla.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Peace Creek.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Providence.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. M. Hayman.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Renel.....	Medulla.....	Medulla.....	Medulla.....	Elias Turner.....	Medulla.....	1.00
New Salem.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Plant City.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Thonotosassa.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Turkey Creek.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Tampa.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Willow Oak.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. M. Hayman.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Winter Haven.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Elias Turner.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Corinth.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	Seffner.....	1.00
Pleasant Hill 1st.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Pleasant Hill 2nd.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	Seffner.....	J. M. Hayman.....	Seffner.....	1.00

Total.	Dis & Exp	Dead.	Restored.	Rec'd let & bapt'm.
91	13	13	21	21
76	8	8	8	8
69	1	1	29	29
38	2	2	14	14
47	1	1	11	11
15	1	1	20	20
89	6	6	9	9
29	10	10	2	2
46	9	9	3	3
43	1	1	2	2
59	3	3	7	7
43	4	4	1	1
25	6	6	3	3
43	4	4	32	32
24	5	5	4	4
51	6	6	2	2
101	20	20	60	60
99	6	6	15	15
111	5	5	34	34
133	32	32	49	49
99	1	1	16	16
28	3	3	1	1
24	2	2	13	13
			16	16

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	For Minutes
Antioch.....	C. H. Nash.....	J. W. Costin.....	Reymand.....	3.00
Bartow.....	J. W. H. Powell.....	Frank P. Day.....	Bartow.....	2.50
Bethel.....	W. M. McDonald.....	A. A. Lewis.....	Kathleen.....	2.00
Bethany.....	Henry Edwards.....	F. M. Eranch.....	Plant City.....	3.00
Clear Water.....	Henry Edwards.....	N. C. Bryan.....	Plant City.....	1.50
Friendship.....	R. T. Caddin.....	Jno. A. Elle.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Gap Way.....	E. M. Hayman.....	W. T. Deubam.....	Homeland.....	1.50
Homeland.....	W. M. McDonald.....	J. H. Hull.....	Plant City.....	2.00
Hopewell.....	John Johnson.....	E. A. Hill.....	Keysville.....	1.68
Keysville.....	G. W. Roby.....	J. T. Park.....	Lakeland.....	1.50
Lakeland.....	T. H. Jandon.....	John Harris.....	Auburadale.....	1.41
Mt. Olive.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	J. H. Rushing.....	Kathleen.....	1.00
Mt. Tabor.....	T. H. Jandon.....	C. F. Holt.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Medulla.....	T. H. Jandon.....	F. W. Little.....	Brandon.....	25
Seffner.....	T. M. Hayman.....	H. J. Goddard.....	Bartow.....	1.50
Peace Creek.....	Elias Turner.....	W. R. Collins.....	.....	1.00
Providence.....	J. G. McCaskey.....	J. V. Till's.....	.....	1.00
Renel.....	T. J. Sparkman.....	W. S. Knight.....	Ft. Meade.....	1.00
New Salem.....	T. H. Jandon.....	B. C. West.....	Ft. Meade.....	3.00
Plant City.....	T. H. Jandon.....	Irvin Walden.....	Plant City.....	4.45
Thonotosassa.....	T. H. Jandon.....	C. H. Pimm.....	Seffner.....	2.00
Turkey Creek.....	W. H. Osborne.....	James Hicks.....	Plant City.....	5.00
Tampa.....	W. M. McDonald.....	M. B. Pierpont.....	Tampa.....	2.01
Willow Oak.....	P. S. Crosier.....	G. H. Thompson.....	Lakeland.....	1.00
Winter Haven.....	Henry Edwards.....	J. N. Anderson.....	Winter Haven.....	1.75
Corinth.....	J. W. Johnson.....	J. M. Dixon.....	St. Petersburg.....	1.66
Pleasant Hill 1st.....	R. T. Caddin.....	.....	Pelot.....	2.00
Pleasant Hill 2nd.....	.....	.....	Ybor City.....	.....
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	\$49.70

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

We, your committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, find two ministers—T. E. Tiller and C. P. Martin—and two deacons—A. J. Loyd, of Winter Haven, and John D. Taylor, of Tampa,—have died during the year. We learn that those two ministers were very able and efficient. Both were pastors of churches at Bartow.

We respectfully suggest that a place for each of the deceased ministers and deacons, suitably inscribed, be given to our ministers and deacons.

J. A. KILGORE, Chairman.
C. W. BUELL,
ELIJAH GRAVES,
L. J. SIMMONS, Committee.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

To the SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, in session at Tampa, Fla., Oct. 8th, 1891:

DEAR BRETHREN:—Your Executive committee begs leave to report on the subject of missions within the bounds of the Association, that there is nothing at this time of a very special nature that claims our attention, more than the fact that the Gospel is spreading, and the cause of the Redeemer is growing and prospering with greater rapidity, and with a firmer step than at any time during the history of our people.

We find that the territory on the Gulf coast, which has been considered a missionary field for several years, is growing in strength and importance, and, we believe, with liberal help for two or three years longer, will become self-sustaining; and we feel under untold obligations to Bro. Henry Edwards for the great work he has done and is still doing in this field, and would recommend that he be liberally supported and encouraged in that work.

We find that there are several churches in the southern

and eastern portions of Polk county that are numerically and financially weak, yet we are assured that each of them is a branch of His own right hand's planting, and the demand is upon us to come and strengthen them in this their hour of need.

The amounts of money forwarded by the various churches to the State Board during the year, and to this Association for various missionary purposes, will appear in the reports of the Finance Com., and of Bro. W. A. Bailey, who represents the State Board, and who will also report the amount of money expended in this Association. A want of time prevents us from compiling these statements into our report, and we recommend that the financial statement of Bro. Bailey, of moneys received during the year by the State Board from our churches for all missionary and other work, be incorporated in our minutes, and that a like report be furnished each year for that purpose.

We have nothing to recommend concerning the present plan of operating this work through the State Board, but believe it to be a good plan, if the churches will do their duty in contributing to the great cause of missions.

We would recommend that Revs. Henry Edwards, J. G. McCaskey and P. S. Crosier be continued by the State Board in the work they are now prosecuting, and would also recommend that reports be made quarterly to the Baptist Witness by all our missionaries in the field, of the progress of their work.

Looking over the present fields of missionary work in our Association, we are encouraged in the hope that in a short time these fields will be able to take care of themselves, and we shall be able to divide the gifts and blessings of our Heavenly Father with those in fields more inviting and more needy.

Respectfully submitted,
W. S. KNIGHT, Sec'y.

BEN. F. BLOUNT, Ch'm'n.
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COMMITTEE ON LETTERS.

Your Committee on Letters beg leave to report that the spiritual outlook of this Association is very encouraging. We find that about two hundred have been added to our number by baptism, that much evidence of faithful, efficient labors on the part of our ministering brethren prevails, that much rejoicing is manifested by quite a number of churches because of the wondrous ingathering of souls for Christ in their midst, that three churches have been organized, that with few exceptions the S. S. interest seems to be good, and that the Lakeland church has petitioned for the next session of this Association, which petition your committee recommend be granted. We further recommend that in the future the churches advise their clerks to write short letters to the Association.

W. S. KNIGHT, Chairman.
 J. R. McDONALD,
 J. J. TAYLOR, JR.,
 S. R. CLARK, Committee.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

Your committee on Religious Literature recognize the fact that what a person regards among those who do read, has as much or more to do with the moulding of character, than any other one influence brought to bear on the life. Many a desperado has received the shaping of his life from the dime novels of his boyhood. Men and women become infidels from a free indulgence in infidel reading.

If parents expect their children to become intelligent, well developed Christians, they must see to it that they have the best religious reading. It is only with the liberal dissemination of a proper religious literature, that a pastor can expect to reach the highest results, not only in the unfolding of Christian character in his church, but also in the real

efficiency of that church in accomplishing the largest work for God. Hence, for the purpose of awakening an intelligent missionary spirit so much needed just now, we urge upon our pastors the need of putting into the hands of as many as possible "Our Home-Field Baptist Basket and Foreign Mission Journal." In the matter of Sunday School literature, we recommend both the "Kind Words" series of our Southern Baptist Con., and the publications of our American Baptist Publication Society, for both are good, and both belong to us.

Finally, we press upon our pastors and churches the need of giving a more liberal support to our own State denominational organ—"The Baptist Witness." It can grow in real intrinsic value as a religious educator, and reach the Baptist families in our State which it ought to reach, only when the pastors and leaders of our denomination put forth real effort in placing the "Witness" in these homes. To this end, we recommend that, on some Sunday in January next, every pastor in the South Florida Association give the "Florida Baptist Witness" an especial place, in showing the need of its educational influence among Florida Baptists, and also in seeking to enlarge its circulation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. H. NASH, Chairman.
 C. V. WAUGH,
 W. M. McDONALD,
 J. W. WEEKS, Com'tee.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our hearty thanks to the Baptist church, and other good people of Tampa, for their generous hospitality in opening unto us their homes, and in providing so bountifully for our wants. We also desire to thank our railroad officials for the reduction of fare granted to the delegates to this Association. COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTION OF BRO. OSBURNE.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Moderator of the Association to appoint, before adjourning, a standing committee of two on each of the following subjects; which committees will be instructed to have their reports ready at the next meeting of the Association:—

Associational Missions.

State Missions.

Home Missions.

Foreign Missions.

Education.

Sunday Schools.

Temperance.

Religious Literature.

Woman's Work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to report, that we are glad to see from the letters sent up that nearly all our churches are fostering the Sunday school interest; but as there are a few not yet engaged in this grand work, we would earnestly suggest to these churches to at once inaugurate this grand work, and at our next Association present an unbroken rank of Bible students and workers. Oh, if we could only realize the beautiful gems and sparkling gold that brighten our spiritual vision as we dig prayerfully and thoughtfully into the rich mine of God's holy Word, and the spiritual strength that comes to our souls as we meet together and talk over them, and hold them up before the minds committed to our charge, until their sparkling rays shall pierce the dark and indifferent recesses of their hearts, and they see the need of a Saviour; and in becoming acquainted with the precious, loving Saviour of the Bible they are induced to open the door and let Him in! We would re-

joice together at next Association, that not only every church, but every member, will be engaged in the grand work, and we will not hear any more of the Bible being a dull book. We are not only exhorted to study and search the Scriptures, but to teach them diligently unto our children. We would also recommend teaching and encouraging a missionary spirit in the various schools. Train them to love and give to the cause of that greatest of earth's missionaries, our great Redeemer.

We also recommend the setting apart of a portion of each Sunday service at our union meetings and associations, for the special consideration of Sunday school work.

O. J. FRIER, Chairman.

REPORT OF STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION:—

DEAR BRETHREN:—You saw proper a year ago to do your associational mission work, as well as home and foreign, through the State Board of Missions, and we hereby give an account of our stewardship.

At the suggestion, or upon the recommendation of your executive committee, Brethren Roby, McCaskey and Edwards have labored in different parts of your territory, and have performed work, as follows:

Weeks labor, 89; churches supplied, 5; missionary stations, 12; sermons, 173; addresses, or lectures, 10; baptisms, 26; received by letter, 37; by restoration, 1; miles traveled, 3,046; visits, 167; Sunday schools, 4; pupils converted, 6; meeting houses finished, 1; religious books distributed, 13; families found with no Bible, 1; tracts distributed, 150; Bibles distributed, 3; and one church organized.

We agreed to pay these brethren for work to close of the year in your Association.....\$262 50

Have paid them to date..... 178 87½

Hence will be due them, Dec. 31..... 83 62½

As treasurer, I have received from your body, through your treasurer and from churches direct.....\$387 07

Cr. By am't. Church Build.....	\$ 55 17	
“ Min. Education.....	12 75	
“ Home Board.....	14 02	
“ Foreign Board.....	46 70	
“ Godinez by Tampa.....	20 00	
“ Missionaries.....	178 87½	327 51½

59 55½
24 07

You see it will require in addition..... 83 62½
to pay your missionaries at close of year. Doubtless more

than that will be received by your treasurer ere your adjournment, and if you will divide the funds available between State Mission, Ministerial Education and Havana Chapel, the Board will pay your missionaries when the quarter is out. Should it seem well to you to work with us again, the Board will do all it can with the funds afforded, and pay as promptly as possible, in justice to all parts of the State, and all branches of the work.

W. N. CHAUDOIN, Cor. Sec'y.

COMMITTEES

TO REPORT AT THE NEXT SITTING OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION, TO-WIT:

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.—Henry Edwards, C. L. Reynolds.

STATE MISSIONS.—A. A. Keith, J. A. Cox.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—C. H. Nash, J. M. Hayman.

TEMPERANCE.—W. H. Osburn, Jno. McKay.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.—S. Walden, Irvin Walden.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.—W. S. Knight, E. W. Norwood.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.—O. J. Frier, J. G. McCaskey.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

READ BY REV. W. H. OSBORNE BEFORE THE SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION, AND PUBLISHED BY REQUEST OF THE ASSOCIATION.

In the absence of separate committees, your committee would refer briefly to four departments of our missionary work, namely: Associational, State, Home and Foreign Missions.

When the great Head of the Church commissioned His disciples to go and evangelize the world, He commanded

them to begin at Jerusalem. Probably no people need more to hear the command to "begin at Jerusalem" than the churches of the South Florida Association; not because of any absolute destitution, but because our possibilities are so great, and the rapid developments and increase of population, both American and foreign, demand that what we do we shall do quickly. While, therefore, we would recommend steady co-operation with the State Board in its work and continued remembrance of the still wider field, we would earnestly urge upon the churches the wisdom of occupying with men and money the important points in the bounds of the Association. We further recommend that the executive board be requested to collect and disburse funds for the purpose of carrying on the work of the Associational Missions.

Looking out beyond the limits of Associational lines, the work grows in its magnitude as we survey the field of the State of Florida. Here is great destitution and great hopefulness. Here is already a vast population, and an increase in population of forty-five per cent. during the last ten years—an increase greater than that of any other State east of the Mississippi river. Such a field demands the most earnest Christian work. We would recommend that the Association heed and respond to the call made through the State Board for a special fund of \$500, to meet the next payment on the Havana house of worship.

When we have met the claims of our Association and State, still our whole duty is not discharged. We stand in an important relation to the evangelization of all this southern land, and as workers for Christ in the Southern Baptist Convention, whose Home Mission Board has for its object the giving of the Gospel to the South, including the Indians and Cubans, there are two things we need especially to remember and emphasize.

1. By reason of providential conditions, the South at the present is a strategic point in the world's evangelization.

2. The majority of all the Baptists of the world are in the South, putting us practically in possession of this land, and to us, then, as to no other people on the globe, the duty of self-preservation and the saving of the world, mean identically the same thing.

We should never forget that He who commanded His disciples to "begin at Jerusalem," said also "Go ye unto all the world." This we call the great commission, and this we must obey.

1. Because of the more than 800,000,000 of the unevangelized of the earth's inhabitants. And the magnitude of the demands is not greater than the urgency, for if this generation of heathens are to be saved, it must be by this generation of Christians; if this generation of Chinamen is to be brought to Christ, it must be by this generation of English-speaking Christians.

2. The best and highest of all reasons why we should obey the great commission, is that loyalty to Christ demands it. As Baptists, we boast our loyalty to Christ. When He commands all men to repent, we repent. When He commands the penitent believer to be baptised, we follow the Master down into the water; when we read that He restricted the supper to baptised believers, we are the strictest of the strict constructionists. We boast our loyalty to Christ. But are we? When He says: "Go unto all the world," practically, if not in theory, we set ourselves in open rebellion. Missions with us is a sentiment. We belong to that class of whom Judas said: "His hand was nearly shaken off, and his hair nearly shorn off for mementoes by those who would willingly let missions die."

Loyalty to Christ! when eighteen Christian centuries look down upon us, and we have not yet gotten away from Jerusalem.

What is needed now is progress. At this advanced stage of the work there is found no place in such a report as this

to answer the questions: Shall the churches contribute to the support of missions? Can the heathen be saved without the gospel? Are Christian missions a failure? and other similar questions. These questions are closed, never to be opened again, and the man who calls himself a Christian, and stands opposed to missions, is an anomaly. Show me such a one now, and I will show you a modern heretic; a belated murderer out of the Dark Ages; a man born three centuries behind his time; a man like the demoniac of Gadara, whose dwelling is among the tombs; a man who knows not "the things which have come to pass in three days."

There are many signs of promise which the lover of missions and the believer in the universal reign of the Christ loves to contemplate. Among these are the providential conditions which render the giving of the gospel to all the world more or less easy of accomplishment. The existence of international fellowship, and the reign of international law, with unparalleled facilities for travel and communication, have made this end possible and feasible, through the existence of railroads, lines of steamship navigation, telegraphs and sub-marine cables, all the families of the earth are brought face to face, as it were, on a common hearthstone. Along side of the breaking away of barriers, and the growth of fraternal feeling in general, is the broadening of thought and sympathy on the part of the followers of Christ, and the increased appreciation of the responsibilities resting upon them. While in other departments of the world's activities the thoughts of men are widening with the process of the sun, the children of light have caught a new glimpse of the revealing of the sons of God, and have set themselves for a world-wide evangelization, in that they are putting forth for the first time an effort to give the gospel to the whole world.

And yet, with all these hopeful developments before us, our watchword ought still to be as never before, "I count

not myself yet to have apprehended, but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." There are many reasons why the church of Christ should advance in all departments of our mission work. Every plea should be a plea for advance movements along the line of the world's evangelization.

Furthermore, in view of the very interesting fact that we are just closing the first century of foreign missions in modern times, and are looking to an appropriate celebration of the establishment of the first Baptist Missionary Society, and the going forth of William Carey, the first missionary from English-speaking people into foreign parts, your committee would earnestly commend to pastors and churches of this Association the plans of our Centennial committees to render effective this celebration in the education of the people along the lines of missionary intelligence, and in the securing of a memorial fund worthy of the occasion; and would further recommend that arrangements be made for holding during the next year as many Centennial Missionary Institutes as are practicable, under the auspices of a committee which shall be appointed for this purpose by the moderator of this Association.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

It is the opinion of the members of your committee, that the subject of temperance is of momentous importance, and that the churches of this Association should, in this collective and associational capacity, give expression to their sentiments on this serious question in no uncertain sound. We regard intemperance and the liquor traffic as most potent weapons in the hands of the adversary of souls, and recog-

nize the duty of all true followers of Christ to stand firm in opposition to every advance of the terrible foe.

We are glad to report that several of our churches have incorporated in their covenants a very distinct and solemn pledge to abstain from the use, as a beverage, of, and the traffic in, intoxicating liquors; and we would earnestly urge any church in this Association that may not now have such a clause in its church covenant, to amend the same by the addition of such clause. We regard a true church of Christ as the best temperance society instituted on earth, our pastors who are combating all sin as the most efficient workers in this cause, and our private members as the most valiant soldiers in the grand army which is to repel the vile enemy intemperance from our great King's dominion; without indicating the precise method of warfare to be pursued, we announce our uncompromising hostility to the needless and harmful use of intoxicating liquors, and traffic in the same; and we pledge ourselves, as pastors, and people, to labor in this cause with all the power and grace with which we pray to be endowed from on high.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. REYNOLDS, Ch'm'n.

W. L. HANCOCK,

E. N. NORWOOD,

J. M. HAYMAN, Com'tee.

CHURCHES.	CASH MISSIONS.				For Minutes.	Ministerial Edu.	S. S. Missions.
	State.	Home.	Associational.	Foreign.			
1 Antioch.....							
2 Bartow.....	\$ 3.77	\$ 3.81		4.52	3.00		
3 Bethel.....	5.00				2.50		
4 Bethany.....			2.20		2.00		
5 Clearwater.....					3.00		
6 Friendship.....					1.50		
7 Gapway.....			.35		1.00		
8 Homeland.....					1.50		
9 Hopewell.....				1.30	2.00		
10 Keysville.....					1.68		
11 Lakeland.....	5.25				1.50		2.25
12 Mt. Olive.....					1.41		
13 Mt. Tabor.....			2.06		1.00		
14 Medulla.....	2.35				1.00		
15 Seffner.....			3.28		.25		
16 Peace Creek.....	1.65				1.50		
17 Providence.....			1.59		1.00		
18 Pine Grove.....							
19 Reuel.....					1.00		
20 New Salem.....					1.00		
21 Plant City.....	5.48				3.00		
22 Thonotosassa.....	1.00				4.45		
23 Turkey Creek.....			7.00		2.00		
24 Tampa.....	17.98				5.00	19.93	
25 Willow Oak.....					2.00		
26 Winter Haven.....	11.10				1.00		
27 Corinth.....					1.75		
28 Pleasant Hill 1st.....					1.66		
29 Pleasant Hill 2nd.....					2.00		
Total.....	\$53.58	\$ 3.81	\$16.39	\$ 5.82	\$50.70	\$19.93	\$ 2.25

Total amount above collected.....\$152.48

Public collection for State Missions..... 7.98

Public collection for Cuban Chapel..... 9.38

Grand total\$169.84

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Cox,

J. C. Blomm,

J. N. COLLINS,

W. F. Pratt,

} Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

	DR.	CR.
Oct. 11, 1890. Balance in Treasury.....	\$ 18 63	
“ “ Col. for special work.....	17 55	
“ “ Col. for S. S. Miss.....	41 02	
“ “ Col. for Min.....	37 02	
Received since above date for Missions.....	220 75	
Total.....	334 97	
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Dec. 4, To Special Work.....	\$ 17 55	
“ To Clerk Fees.....	15 00	
“ To Printing Minutes.....	21 50	
“ To W. M. Chaudoin.....	276 20	
Total.....	330 25	
Balance in Treasury.....	\$1 72	

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. KNIGHT, Treas.